

Fireweed Academy
'Where students learn to view themselves as readers, writers, and problem solvers'
Academic Policy Committee Meeting
Approved Minutes
August 12, 2015

APC Members Present: Amber Niebuhr, Jon Kulhanek, Kary Brinson, Brandy McGee, Garry Betley, Stephanie Zuniga (came at 5:15)

Members absent:, Kate Henry, Hannah Gustafson

Committee Members Present:

Staff Present: Kiki Abrahamson- FWA Principal, Janet Bowen, Secretary

Community Members Present: Gina Pelaia

Public Comments: from Garry Betley- Garry has spoken to Mako Haggerty regarding facilities. The question that arise are how much surplus do we have, what is the rollover amount, etc. Some of our options: private land, public land and Ritchie expansion. We should have meetings with Dave Jones, Borough folks and APC.

Meeting called to order at 4:41 pm

Motion: Brandy moved to approve the amended agenda, seconded by Kary, motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion: Kary moved to postpone approval of the July Minutes until the next APC meeting, seconded by Amber and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Gina Pelaia came to talk about the Wildberry building. She said the owners are very excited for us to consider them and they are open to ideals to make it work. It was noted that if we proceed, we would need to have an Architect look at the facility. Amber said she cold contact the firm in Anchorage that builds for other charter schools. It was also noted that we would want to use all the lots, and have better parking (Lee Street would have to be extended). Gina said Rhonda, the owner, is open to all the land but she would want to use some of the land in the summer. Gary Betley said we are not ready to commit.

Administrators Report: - Kiki talked with Dave Ritchie, he is interested in expansion for Fireweed and is willing to build to suit. It would be about \$500.000 to double the current size. Dave does not want to deal with the current owners of the land next to his property. He would need a commitment from the APC to proceed.

Parking Lot: Dave will arrange to get the parking lot finished-should happen next week by Tommy Patton, should be flattened and graded down. The shed may have to be moved.

Kiki reviewed the School development plan. There are 4 goals. Teachers have been working on language describing FWA...why we are different. The teachers are fine tuning this and Kiki will email the results to the APC.

Enrollment and staffing-Enrollment is flexing as usual. Mo Wilkinson is at big fireweed 8-10, doing homeroom then 5th grade LA. She then spends the rest of the day at Little Fireweed. David is at LFW until 10 and then comes to Big Fireweed for the rest of the day. Sharlyn is a full time instructional aide at Little Fireweed. Two

3.5 hr non-instructional positions have closed. Jane Kilcher resigned but will be continuing to work at Little Fireweed for a while. Kim is the kindergarten teacher at Little Fireweed, Jon and Betsy are splitting ½ grades.

The carryover from last year's budget was within \$13000 of last year. There is \$17,000 encumbered, not sure what this is. There was a discussion to change the budget meeting to have it held just prior to the APC meetings, on the same day.

Budget Committee: no report

Strategic planning committee reports: none

APC membership: There was a discussion to change the APC meetings to Mondays to accommodate Jon's classes. Since we did not have a full APC staff present it was discussed that we move the next meeting to September 14th and then discuss making this a permanent change.

Motion: Amber moved to have the September APC meeting on September 14th, Cary Seconded and the motion passed with unanimous consent.

Janet was directed to send out an email to families letting them know there are a few seats open on the APC and to invite them to Septembers meeting to see what it's all about.

From Pegge Ergeneff If there are anyone from our school parent group that would like to be a Key Communicator with the district and participate in a few meetings per year to take on issues such as goals, objectives, fall funding, early release, etc., Pegge is the person to contact in the district. Her number is 907-714-8847.

Motion: Amber moved to adjourn at 5:50pm, Brandy 2nds and motion passes with unanimous consent.

Submitted by Janet Bowen